



"Only God could have thought of Christmas. Its beauty is beyond the ken of mortals. . . It is a tapestry woven of stable-straw and star-light. It is a scene to sanctify the world, and call it back from a wisdom that is not wise . . . Man would have made it a pageant. But God works in slower and more secret ways. . . He sent a Babe to make a woman cry. Such wisdom breaks the heart—and mends it." — JOSEPH FORT NEWTON, in *The Christian Herald*.



For those who will not be *Mentally Marooned*

WORLD WEEK

It is worth noting that the African invasion, widely heralded as a Roosevelt strategem, has brought forth surprisingly little direct approbation for the President. The talk is all of the Army, the Navy, "our magnificent fighting men." One may say that this is as it should be. Yet the conviction grows that, had it been possible to time such a move to materialize, say, eight months ago, President Roosevelt would have garnered much more personal praise.

To be quite blunt about it, the President does not have the unquestioning adulation that was his heritage at war's outset. It would be something of a miracle if he had. Regardless of the fanfare and propaganda, the stubborn fact remains that wars are not popular with the people. Rationally, they may accept the necessity to fight, yet instinctively they resent the intrusion. They rebel at upsetting the normal pattern of their lives. And they center their resentment, which may not be openly expressed, or even consciously realized, upon those who chance to be in power. Thus this loss of popularity might be ascribed, in part, to the natural irritations resulting from rationing and kindred inconveniences.

But there is another factor, deeper and more dangerous. It is a growing conviction in the minds of the people that the Administration has let them down; that it has not been far-visioned or realistic in planning for war; that, as David Lawrence expresses it, the "planned economy" of the New Deal has broken down. There is considerable evidence to support such a point of view. Currently, the oil rationing program has been very badly bungled. And we have yet to meet the full repercussions of the food situation, which will directly affect the entire population, and which is far graver than people generally realize. The assertion that much of this resentment is unjustified, is beside the point. It is here. And it must be reckoned with.

This is not to say that Mr. Roosevelt's personal prestige is in immediate jeopardy. But it is convictions such as we have suggested, festering chronically in the public mind, that unmake Presidents.

AFRICA: We should have, before too many days, a clearer pattern of Hitler's plan for the future. Two surmises are possible from developments to date. The first is that the Axis purposes to cling to its strategic points so long as possible; the second is that the Tunisian defense is what might be termed a sheltering operation, with the primary purpose of aiding Rommel's remnants to escape. If the Germans want to prolong their stay in Tunisia, as we now believe, they can hardly surrender Tripoli without a struggle. Watch the day to day developments.

FRANCE: Darlan's statement of future objectives explains without completely clarifying. He is, of course, an opportunist. It may be that his interest is more in the future of France than in forwarding personal ambitions. This appears to be the conclusion of on-the-spot

Quote

prophecies . . .

SPAIN: We have frequently forecast the eventual Nazi occupation of Spain, with the objective of closing the Mediterranean at Gibraltar. We now think it is Hitler's next major move, and may come in very near future. If some stratagem can't be devised to convince Spanish people of imminence of Allied invasion, Franco may have to put up nominal resistance.

JAPAN: She is preparing to resume her campaign in China. A large-scale offensive is in the making. Meanwhile, U S planes continue raids on Jap communication lines in Burma. Important news pends.

BRITAIN: Raids on England by German planes grow heavier. We think British are in for some rather heavy bombing before spring.

observers. However, his promise to retire is meaningless; such promises can be perpetually renewed. Though there is an outward semblance of tranquility, the situation as regards the various French factions is still far from satisfactory.

There is dissension, too, though unreported, between Gen'l Eisenhower and Darlan, who is serving as Civil Administrator. One point of difference is the rescinding of anti-Jewish laws, set up by Vichy in Algiers and Morocco. When we went into Africa, Eisenhower promised to abolish these discriminations, and the promise was later confirmed by President Roosevelt. Darlan, some time ago, issued a statement to the effect that such matters would be handled thru his Imperial French Council. The implication was clear that Americans shouldn't interfere. So far as we can learn, no action has been taken, and none appears likely in the near future.

RUSSIA: Without disparaging Russia's efforts, we must remind you, as we did at this season last year, that the actions of the Red Army are essentially defensive. On the whole, Nazis must be credited with a skillful retreat. While their losses are admittedly heavy, it is unduly optimistic to anticipate that a major disaster will befall them in the immediate future.

. . . Well, we still say
A Merry Christmas
—and a Better Year!

Lawrence Sanders

Publisher.

Quote

"He Who Never Quotes, is Never Quoted"—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"The fuel oil shortage will be greater in 1943 and in 1944 than in 1942, and all home owners in rationed areas where coal is available, who have grates and furnaces capable of conversion to coal should do so just as soon as they can get the means of conversion."—From the statement of a Senate Committee, investigating the rationing of commodities.

"If out of all this we cannot get a peace that will combine the efforts of all of the world for better things, then we had better surrender to Hitler tonight."—Sen GEO NORRIS, of Nebraska, in a speech climaxing 40 yrs of public service. Sen. Norris was striking directly at W. P. WITHROW, president, Nat'l Ass'n of Mfgs, who, fortnight ago, said: "I am not fighting for a quart of milk for every Hottentot, or for a TVA on the Danube." (Norris Dam, named in honor of the Senator, is a division of TVA.)

"Despite what you may have heard, the Japs DO surrender!"—Maj Gen ALEXANDER A VANDEGRIFT, commander in chief, U S forces on Guadalcanal.

"Take his car away from a man and you deflate his ego. When, because of gas rationing, he no longer can impress the girls and step up his feeling of power with a red roadster, a man's only recourse is to become an ESQUIRE model."—O E SCHOEFFLER, fashion authority, addressing group of men's furnishings buyers at Chicago's Merchandise Mart.

"I never neck except with members of the Army, the Air Forces, the Navy, the Coast Guard and the Marine corps."—ROSEMARY LANE, motion picture actress.

"May we
Quote
you on that?"

"This year, people won't follow tradition; they'll do what they can with what's to be had."—A spokesman for the GOURMET SOCIETY, discussing difficulties in preparing usual Holiday beverages.

"I think we can leave it to the American press and public to see that squeamishness and old maiden aunt-like apprehensions of the Hollywood censors are overcome." — BRENDEN BRACKEN, British Information Minister, commenting on Hays office action in deleting the word "bastard" from U S version of the Noel Coward film, *In Which We Serve*. (The word is spoken by a British seaman, applied to German U-boat commander.)

"Ration Boss Leon Henderson is built like Santa Claus, but that's where the resemblance ends."—HAL FOUST, Chicago Tribune Press Service, commenting on fact that Henderson had not increased gasoline allowances as Holiday gesture.

"Where I come from, in the middle west, we have to go thru country like this to get to the barn."—A Rookie Commando, at Camp Hood, Texas, upon viewing the difficult obstacle course.

"I have announced that my sole purpose is to save French Africa, help free France, and then retire to private life with the hope that the future leaders of France may be selected by the French people themselves, and by no one else."—Admiral JEAN DARLAN, in a formal statement issued as high commissioner of French Africa.

"If the people really knew all that is being accomplished by industry, they would be encouraged greatly."—CHAS E WILSON, president, Gen'l Motors.

"I love horses — on the hoof." — CLAUDE R WICKARD, Sec'y of Agriculture, questioned by newsmen on the possibility of horse meat as an edible commodity.

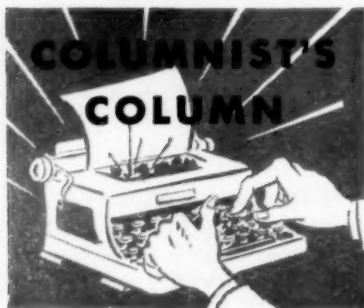
"The people are blaming the Administration for their troubles, when they should blame Hitler. The Democratic party failed in not educating the people that this whole mess is Hitler's and not ours."—JAMES QUIGLEY, Nebraska committeeman, at a meeting of state Democratic leaders, to probe recent election results.

"There are a great many people in the south violently opposed to the New Deal. The field is there, and it is fertile. We certainly are going to extend to the south a cordial welcome to join the crusade." — HARRISON SPANGLER, newly-elected chairman, Republican nat'l committee.

"If I were Tarzan's mate, no one would give it a second thought; but because it's a bedroom—well, it just goes to show you."—ANNE LEE, motion picture actress, commenting on public reaction to her underdressed scene in the film, *Unconquered*.

Quote

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"Planned Economy"

DAVID LAWRENCE

For many years the term New Deal has been synonymous with "planned economy." Some day, its sponsors said, the state would plan the economic life of the nation.

Today under the stress of war, the opportunity for "planned economy" has come. And the New Dealers are in office. They have plenty of public funds, plenty of authority and plenty of controls over economic life.

But the citizens are waking up to the fact that if what they are living under today is "planned economy," then somebody has failed to provide the plan or show the economy.

For there has been a lack of planning to provide tires, a lack of planning to provide sugar, a lack of planning to provide a balanced food supply, a lack of planning to provide gasoline and now a lack of planning to provide fuel oil to keep people warm.

It will be asserted that many of the circumstances were unforeseen because the demands of a huge army and navy could not be foretold. But the records are full of warnings concerning the expected shortage and administrative blunders in failing to meet them.

The real trouble today is that those in power in the government have refused to listen to the advice of the people of experience and they scorn the help of folks who happen to have been successful in business.

Mr. Roosevelt will be known in history as a great leader inspirationally on war aims and strategy but his many friends will regret that a record of being one of the poorest administrators who ever sat in the White House is being imprinted on the minds of fellow-citizens because he allows the incompetent to remain in office while black-listing the most successful men in America for having opposed him or his experiments in "planned economy."—Condensed from Mr. Lawrence's syndicated column.

BUREAUCRACY

In any conflict with a bureaucrat, the cards always are stacked against the citizen. An investigation, indictment, or any other calling to account of a citizen or a business concern is but a routine incident to a bureau head. The vast resources of gov't enable him to take it in his stride without regard to time or cost. To the citizen, however, it all may be so grievous an affliction that he is willing to avert it at almost any cost. And when that happens we are, whether we know it or not, slipping from gov't of law into the lowest form of gov't known to man—gov't by intimidation.—W. C., "The Trading Post," *Business Week*, 12-5-'42.

CHRISTMAS—Cheer

"Christmas must never change" we have said to ourselves. . . But the world has changed. There is no peace on earth, and suddenly the pleasant pattern has become an anachronism. . .

This year we must create a new kind of Christmas based on a very old principle. . . a principle for which no satisfactory substitute has ever been found. . . It is simply this—that to be happy, a human being must forget himself and remember others. How unmistakable and plain the secret is, and how many there are who never learn it!—MARGARET COUSINS, "How to be Happy This Christmas", *House Beautiful* 12-'42.

CHRISTMAS—Customs

It is curious that one of the dearest of American customs was initiated among us by enemy troops, the Hessian soldiers of the Revolutionary times. Those unhappy mercenaries sought a brief respite by setting up the Christmas tree that was traditional in their homeland. Thus war brought us the Christmas tree, and war, this year, will deprive many an American home of its accustomed spruce or balsam decoration.—FRANCIS C COULTER, "The Plants and Flowers of Christmastide," *The Flower Grower*.—12-'42.

CHRISTMAS—Spirit

It's Christmas eve, Sonny. . . Am I wrong in wanting you to laugh, to be gay in your heart, to be filled with a spirit of peace?

The first Christmas I can remember was celebrated during a war, too. I can remember a pair of roller skates and a tricycle. But I don't remember that a war was going on—nobody told me then. My Christmas was light-

hearted and gay. Why shouldn't yours be the same? Making your Christmas happy won't make me forget that blood is being shed, that there will be loved and familiar faces missing from many homes; that this day will be one of sorrowful remembrance for many people. No, it won't make me forget, but why should I let you know? We are fighting now so that a Christian spirit may live once again in peace—and with dignity. So why should you know that there isn't always "Peace On Earth, Good Will to Men"?—VIRGINIA HERROD, "Tomorrow will be Christmas, Sonny," *American Home*, 12-'42.

Star Eternal

O little child in Mary's arms,
No conflict is too great
To keep on earth the peace Thou
sought,
And end this war of hate!
—JAMES FRANCIS COOKE, *The Etude*, 12-'42.

DRINK—Drinking

Seasonal warning: You can't keep both yourself and your business in a liquid condition.—OLIN MILLER.

EDUCATION—Educators

A professor is a man whose job is to tell students how to solve the problems of life which he himself has tried to avoid by becoming a professor.—Bee Hive.

GOSSIP—Danger

Bill almost blew up when he found that Joe got a C-ration of gasoline.

"That guy's a chiseler," Bill snarled. And went around telling all and sundry: "I know a guy works in my office got a C. And I know that guy rides the bus to and from work every day of the week. He's a chiseler. I bet there's thousands like him!"

It was after a week of such broadcasting that Bill found out: Joe's wife is a school teacher who has to drive 30 miles every day to get to and from an inaccessible-by-public-transportation school.

Bill stopped snarling but—that didn't stop what he'd already scattered abroad—this Bill who'd done the perfectly human thing of being mad about something before he found out what he was mad about.—H C L JACKSON, *Detroit News*.

When the Aliens Left

ERNEST L. MEYER

We were talking the other day to a resident of our town, an American citizen who happened to have been born in Italy, a hard-working day laborer in a Bridgeport munitions plant.

He had two sons in the Army and another slated for service. Many of his friends and neighbors, also Italian Americans, are in defense work and have sons in the Army. Some of the fathers, through accident or negligence, have failed to become naturalized. Yet they are giving to our war effort their sons and their sinews.

Despite all this, he said sadly, they are still lumped as aliens, even as "undesirable foreigners," by certain strident Yankee patriots. He was especially bitter about people like Congressman Martin Dies and Westbrook Pegler, both of whom have been fulminating about "America for the American-born."

That night we had a dream.

We dreamed that Westbrook Pegler rubbed his magic lamp and the genie appeared and the genie said: "What is thy will, master?"

And Pegler answered: "It is my will that straightway all the aliens in America be exiled to some distant and inhospitable spot and there do sufferance for their sins."

And the genie said: "Truly I can grant thy wish, master, but there is a law in my land which says that whosoever is sent into exile shall be allowed to take with him whatever he has created by his own efforts. This is, I think, a just law, and if you abide by it, I can grant your desire."

And Pegler said: "Indeed, your law is quite just. Let the aliens be deported, and let them take with them what they have created, for surely they have fashioned nothing but dissent and plots and labor racketeering and radical heresies and sins and sabotage. And to these they are welcome."

And the genie said: "So be it, master." And he uttered a few words of strange power and a miracle happened.

It followed on that very instant that a vast fleet of barges and boats was fashioned, and into them, millions upon millions, flocked the aliens, and they took with them what they had created in America.

They took the highways hewn out of the wilderness by Sicilians and Slavs, and great rafts of lumber felled in the forests by the Irish, the Swedes, the Norwegians, and many millions of square miles of earth made fertile by the Germans, the Swiss, the Danes, and the Dutch, and billions of garments woven by the Jews, and mountainous masses of coal dug from the pits by the Italians and Finns and Poles, and whole cities of skyscrapers and subways and railroads and mills and marts wrought by the sinews of many aliens from the four quarters of the world when the call went out that America needed immigrants to make America great.

And they took with them also their alien culture, their music and their songs, their languages and their literature, their books and their Bibles, their cookery, their piety and their passions, their ideals and philosophy and folk dances and fun, which had been woven into the rich and multi-colored fabric of America.

And a great want followed, and a great and strange silence.

And in that silence there was naught to be heard save the frightened whimpering of Westbrook Pegler, who gazed over the barren landscape robbed of highways and railroads and forests and cities and fertile farms. And Pegler cried: "Genie! Genie!"

But there was no answer, for the genie, an alien, was on one of the deportation boats to Bagdad.

And after that there was nothing, and the night.—*Common Ground*, Winter, 1943.

LEISURE

Time and ability can be wasted when a man is at leisure as well as when he is working.—"Thoughts for Today and Tomorrow," *Hoar's Dairy-man*, 11-25-'42.

MARRIAGE—Customs

The Best Man was originally one of the belligerents who helped the bridegroom carry off the bride by force. . . All the groomsmen were styled Best

Men, because they were strongest and bravest obtainable.

One of the duties of the Best Men was to choose, often by lot, which was to marry the bride if, as frequently happened, the groom was killed in the ensuing struggle. This must have been rather disconcerting to the bride, who could hardly have had her linen marked in advance. She was reasonably sure of being married, but a bit uncertain as to the precise name of her husband.—*Facts*, 12-'42.



Tempest in a Coffeepot—Some Central American countries depend on coffee for 95 per cent of exports. Coffee trade is economic life or death to them. Our offer to lend money equal to crop value hasn't solved problem. They don't want a mountain of coffee plus a mountain of debt.

There are some indications our policy of handling coffee shipping situation has aroused doubt and questioning. Stockpile & Shipping committee has assigned priority rating 2A for, say, 800,000 tons coffee. Bear in mind, only this quantity is permitted, regardless of space available. Allotment was filled by end of Sept. Since then, permission has been refused importers to buy in countries of production. It has been quite a strain on good neighborly feelings of coffee producers, who know that boats working those waters have to pick up coffee, come back light, or hunt for odds and ends of cargo. Coffee is the one product that provides substantial tonnage (excepting oil, which requires boats of different type).

Coffee traders cannot, under these limitations, take advantage of windfall tonnage, such as boats coming from Far East in ballast, or boats going to Pacific coast from Europe, in ballast. Colombia, with some boats available, was balked because WPB refused import licenses for coffee over amt specified by Stockpile & Shipping committee. It was a decisive victory for red tape! ("Coffee in Red Tape Wrapper," *Howard Stephenson, The Pan-American*, 12-'42.)

Beating the U-Boat—It isn't easy battle. United Nations destroyer strength is less than a third that of Great Britain alone in 1917. And there are far more U-boats. During last war no more than 6 subs operated in our waters at one time. During past summer, 30 to 40 were constantly on prowl. But—menace will be wiped out.—*HERBERT ASBURY, "We Can Win the Battle of The Atlantic," Popular Science*, 12-'42).

News of the New

CONTAINERS—You may be buying canned foods in two new types of containers. The first, a "tinless" can, will range in color from gun metal to brown or bronze. Made of specially-prepared steel plate, coated inside and out with special baked, semi-transparent enamel. The second will look about same as conventional can, but will contain less than half as much tin. Precious metal is applied by electrolytic process. Inside is coated with an enamel. New cans not quite as resistant to rust, but should serve every normal need.

" "

ERSATZ: Paper underwear costing so little it can be thrown away after one wearing, is a war discovery. Developed for Army as extra insulation for troops in Arctic regions. Made of pulped cotton clippings; contains two sheets of paper, joined by thin coating of asphalt and tar.

" "

MEDICINE: For a long time Drs have strongly suspected that poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) results from a virus. If this virus can be isolated in pure form, the preparation of an effective vaccine should become almost routine. Experimenters at Columbia U College of Physicians & Surgeons report an interesting development in *Science* (12-10-'42). Infected brains of mice which had died of the paralysis were chemically treated to yield a bluish fluid. Three quadrillionths of a gram administered to a healthy mouse produced a fatal case of disease. Scientists are not certain they have isolated the true virus (our knowledge of viruses is still pretty sketchy) but are fairly certain they are on the right track.

" "

PROCESSES: It is well known that domestic hog bristle has been scorned by makers of brushes, who have preferred products of China, Russia, Poland. Now that these supplies are cut short, with demand greatly increased, salvaging of American hog hairs is necessary. First plant to process domestic bristles into paint brushes was set up this week in southern Indiana, with others thruout mid-west to follow. Refugees, experienced in "dressing" will be employed to superintend operations.

NINETEEN FORTY-X

Your bathroom may be molded in one piece, ready to be hooked up for service. Water valves will be thermostatic; you need never be scalded. Instead of one catch-all, you'll have many specially designed cabinets. Heated towel bars; a big lavatory with 8 to 10 ft counter space and a flexible hose spray for shampooing. And—the crack around the tub will be a thing of the past!—"Your Bathroom will be Obsolete After the War", *House Beautiful*, 12-'42.

Trek to Tripoli

Early in the nineteenth century, the Pasha of Tripoli declared war on America. He was a usurper like Hitler, who is now being driven from the same Tripoli.

At the same time, American commerce in the Mediterranean was being plundered by the Barbary corsairs.

So the United States instructed William Eaton, an American who had considerable diplomatic experience in the Barbary states of Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and Tripoli, to form an expeditionary force for an advance against Tripoli.

The tiny army consisted of Lieut. Presley N. O'Bannon and seven other Marines, 38 Greeks, 90 of the loyal Tripolitaniens, and a party of Arabian cavalry, footmen and camel drivers. Celebrated in the Marine's Hymn sung by the leathernecks, the trek to Tripoli began.

Eaton's motley army set out in March of 1805 on its 600-mile march across the North African desert. Reaching Derna, the Marines seized the harbor fort.

For the first time in American history the Stars and Stripes were hoisted on a fortress in the Old World.

Peace was made with Tripoli. Since then the leathernecks have been feared by every enemy in every American war.—*The Diamond*, Mid-Continent Petroleum Co, 11-'42.

ORIGINS

We've heard at least seven explanations of the origin of the word "jeep." A logical one is the last. When the little cars came rolling off the freight cars at the camps they were designated for "general purpose," and the initials stenciled on the sides, "G. P." were streamlined by the soldiers.—Joe HARRINGTON, *Boston Post*.

Confidentially thru a Megaphone

Fuel oil rationing is pretty much of a muddle. In the east, at least, there is threat of tragic consequences. Mathematical formula to which processors instructed to adhere—so much oil for so many square feet of space—takes no account of bldg construction, efficiency of heating unit, other varying factors. Result is, some domestic users get 85 to 100 per cent of last year's consumption, while others are cut to less than half, and can't maintain livable temperature. Some suggest that since domestic use acts for only about 3 per cent of fuel oil consumption, comparatively small saving does not warrant such stringent cuts as to endanger public health. Another threat is that dealer system may break down entirely under terrific load of paperwork. . . Which reminds us that one of the newer gov't bureaus, with initials CMP is known to initiate as *Cripes! More Paperwork*.

At least twice recently city of Washington has come so close to race riots the High Ups were scared stiff. . . Domestic servants thruout country have organized informally, with surreptitious slogan, "Out of the kitchens by Christmas!"

Thieves who steal gas ration books waste time; car license number must coincide with that on the book. . . Some individuals with perverted sense of humor are accosting holders of "C" gas books. They claim some infraction of law, demand the book and tear it up. Don't surrender such books to anyone. They are property of OPA; cannot be taken from you without a hearing. . . Don't gripe if station attendant demands your ration coupons before pumping gas. He's just obeying law. . . One youngster we know foreswore seasonal Tommy guns and roller skates; asked Santa for a gasoline station!

United Press erred strangely in circulating report Dr Paul de Kruif, popular writer on medical subjects had been expelled from American Medical Ass'n. De Kruif isn't eligible for AMA. He's PhD (U of Mich) not an MD.

Army can grant travel furloughs to comparatively few this holiday season; officers expect many AWOLs.

Fourth Term Feeler?

Anti-administration Democrats are at work trying to capture the party. They dream of a coalition of southern reactionary Democrats and western anti-labor Democrats, out of which to make a conservative Democratic party. . .

Eut all of this has an air of unreality because it doesn't mean a thing unless President Roosevelt retires. That becomes less likely every day. There is growing acceptance of the logic that if he remains physically in shape, Mr. Roosevelt will be the best one to finish the war and initiate the peace.—RAYMOND CLAPPER, in his Washington syndicated column.



The House of Christmas

There fared a mother driven forth
Out of an inn to roam;
In the place where she was homeless
All men are at home.
The crazy stable close at hand,
With shaking timber and shifting
sand,
Grew a stronger thing to abide and
stand
Than the square stones of Rome.
—G. K. CHESTERTON.

RELIGION

We cannot preserve for our children what has no meaning for us. You cannot in conscience send your child off to Sunday School because it is "the thing to do" and have no identification with religion yourself.—"Mother, Where is God?" *McCall's*, 12-42.

SALESMEN—Employment

"Please be nice to our new salespeople. They are harder to get than new customers!"—Sign. of the times, reported in a N Y dep't store.

American Scene

Long May They Wave!

SUEAN JONES MEDLOCK

A brand-new Wave was bewildered, horrified and terribly upset the first day she noticed "tattoo" on the schedule for the day. She's heard of sailors and tattoos, and she's listened to "Lydia the Tattooed Lady" on the Victrola and heard the verses about her "pictures" of the Statue of Liberty and Niagara Falls. But she never thought, when she joined the Waves, that she should have to have a TATTOO. She was beginning to picture what she could have that would serve the purpose, yet be as modest as possible, when some kind soul informed her that "tottoo" was the warning bell five minutes before taps! And was she a relieved Wave!

This story came to us in "Wave Lengths" a delightful letter from three Atlanta Waves and one from Virginia—Barbara Chandler, Alice Barnum, and Sybil Grant, of Atlanta, and Katherine Beville, of Virginia. It seems that this foursome has so many friends, who all wanted to know EVERYTHING about Wave-life that they decided to send the same letter, mimeographed, to these interested people.

And here is part of it:

"Already we've become confused and puzzled a number of times. This has been partly due to the strange accents, and partly to Navy lingo. We live on deck four which we reach by climbing

the ladder; we remain in our quarters, sleep in a bunk, report to mess hall where we eat food prepared in the galley. Our information comes from orders posted or from the mate of the deck (one of the ensigns who knows no more than we know, but has access to all information). We hands don't proceed, but carry on. Things must be, not O. K., but shipshape. We never speak to our superiors without sounding off, which is to say, 'Ensign Barnum, Sir!' Our week-ends are shore leaves if we are away from the 'ship.'

"Our schedule takes care of every minute of the 24 hours in the day, and strangely enough Navy time runs from 1 to 24 rather than from 1 to 12 twice. At 1 p. m. it is 13 o'clock, 2 is 14 o'clock, etc. Dinner is served at 1815 (6:15 to landlubbers). Five days a week we have five class periods, two studies, two hours of drill or physical education, and an hour of liberty each day. Wednesday afternoons are scheduled free, but last Wednesday was literally shot to pieces. We had small pox and our first tetanus inoculations, and are told to expect three typhoids and another tetanus, which should just about take care of all the Wednesdays between now and December 18 when we finish our indoctrination course. Fainting is a trite trick and the ambulance stands in front of the door to remove casualties."—*Atlanta Journal*.

WAR—Complexity

A shell from an American gun thunders thru the jungle. Have you considered the countless links in a globe-encircling chain that must be completed to make that simple act possible? The cartridge case made in Connecticut, the propellant powder in New Jersey, the body of the shell forged in Pittsburgh, machined in Detroit and filled with explosive charge in Illinois, met at some final assembling point, a fuse and primer manufactured in Missouri. The complete round was then carried by rail, ship and truck, by sweating doughboy, to the firing point, so that it might be on hand and on time—Maj F. W. NICHOL, v p International Business Machines Co, addressing Southwestern Sales Mgrs Conference.

Progress of a Great Man

- 1—Quits shining his own shoes.
 - 2—Quits writing his own letters.
 - 2—Quits writing his own speeches.
- Owlprint.

WOMEN—Their Place

The men at last are beginning to understand how useful women can be in the life of a nation when times become difficult. In almost every country in South America today, women are getting their efficient fingers into the public pies, and oddly enough, winning the approval of the men.—ANA ROSA DE MARTINEZ GUERRERO, Chairman, Inter-American Commission of Women.

GENS FROM Yesteryear

Christmas-Night in
The Quarters

IRWIN RUSSELL

IRWIN RUSSELL was perhaps the first to write understandingly of the Negro of early post-war days. He was born in Mississippi in 1853. Educated as a lawyer, he never tried a case. Spent his time writing and wandering. This selection is from the operetta of the same name, published in Scribner's, 1878. We find Brudder Brown as he "begs a blessin'" on the Christmas dance. Russell died in his 26th year.

We labors in de vineya'd, wukin' hard
an' wukin' true;
Now, sho'ly you won't notus, ef we eats
a grape or two,
An' takes a leetle holiday—a leetle
restin' spell—
Bekase, nex' week' we'll start in fresh,
an' labor twicet as well.

Remember, Mahs'r—min' dis, now—de
sinfulness ob sin
Is 'pendin' 'pon de speerit what we
goes and does it in;
An' in a righteous fram ob min' we's
gwine t' dance an sing,
A-feelin' like King David, when he
cut de pigeon-wing.

It seems to me—indeed it do—I mebbe
mout be wrong—
Dat people raly ought t' dance, when
Christmas comes along;
Des dance bekase dey's happy—like de
birds hops in de trees,
De pine-top fiddle soundin' to de
bowin' ob de breeze.

We has no ark t' dance afore, like Is-
rul's prophet king;
We has no harp t' soun' de chords, to
help us out to sing;
But 'cordin' to de gif's we has, we
does de bes' we knows,
An' folks don't 'spise de vi'let-flower
bekase it ain't de rose.

You bless us, please, sah, eben ef we's
doin' wrong to-night;
Kase den we'll need de blessin' more'n
ef we's doin' right;
An' let de blessin' stay wid us, untel
we comes to die,
An goes t' keep our Chrismus wid dem
sheriffs in de sky.

Good Stories YOU CAN USE...

One of our bookbinders has a clerk who reported a painful domestic incident last week. He arrived home very late for dinner and explained to his irate wife: "I had to wait for mine boss." "You mean to standing dere and tallink me you are making a pal out of dot dirty keppitalist?" she cried. "You and him is going hum togadder now?" "Who's tukking about keppitalists?" groaned the clerk. "I had to wait for de crosstown boss!"—BENNETT CERF.—*Saturday Review of Literature.*

"I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE"

WM. HENRY McMASTER

President, Mt. Union College

One of our professors, Dr. Jos. E. Scott, was teaching a class of nurses from the Alliance City Hospital. He explained the use of the tourniquet in stopping the flow of blood. "The pressure" he said "should be applied between the cut and the heart. Now, what would you do in case your patient had a brain hemorrhage? Think carefully."

One brilliant pupil had the answer in a flash. And at least it must be admitted she was literal in her interpretation:

"I'd put a tourniquet on his neck!"

Tom took his wife and two children out to spend a week with her parents in the country, while some repairs were being made on the house.

At week-end the repair job wasn't finished and Tom telephoned to suggest that the missus extend her stay for a few days.

"I will not!" she hissed. "You come right out and get me. I can't stand living with in-laws any longer."

"What do you mean?" asked puzzled Tom. "They're not *my* folks; they're yours."

"Well" said Mrs. Tom defensively, "after you're married, they're ALL in-laws!"—H C L JACKSON, *Detroit News.*

A woman of obvious wealth and questionable breeding raised quite a ruckus on a dining car out of Chicago the other evening. She told the waiter all about himself, his shortcomings, and her opinion of rationing, when he refused to get her a second cup of coffee.

A soldier, seated at a neighboring table arose, bowed, and presented his cup of steaming beverage.

"Madam, here's one more thing I can do for my country."

She took the coffee—our informant reports—and drank it without comment.

" "

WISECRACKS of the Week

Darlan, being a seafaring man, knew a turning tide when he saw one.—HOWARD BRUBAKER, *The New Yorker.*

" "

Don't claim you have an open mind—it may be only vacant. *Phoenix Flame.*

" "

Overheard: "The stork that brought you in should have been arrested for smuggling dope."

" "

One trouble with the world is that laziness is so seldom fatal.—EARL RINEY, *Church Management.*

A minister was asked if he was making many new friends in his new charge.

"Well" he replied, smiling, "I must say I noticed quite a few nodding acquaintances in my congregation this morning."—*Capper's Weekly.*

" "

Bozo: "Gloria darling, as I kissed you, love was born."

Gloria: "That's fine dear, but please wipe that birthmark off your lips."

